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1. A steroid compound satisfying the following structural formula:

wherein:

one of X and Y is OH, the other being H;

R₃ is H, COR'₃ with R'₃ being alkyl or aryl;

R₇, R₁₆, and R₁₇ each indepenently are H, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl; R₁₁ is a hydrocarbon group which may be linear or branched, provided that it comprises one single linear chain having a length of from 5 to 9 carbon atoms as the longest chain on carbon atom no. 11 of the steroid skeleton, wherein said chain may be saturated or unsaturated.

formula I

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2. A steroid compound according to claim 1, characterised in that R₁₁ is selected from the following group of side-chain structures:

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wherein X is CH_2 , CH-alkyl, or $C(alkyl)_2$, R_1 is H, alkyl, C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl, or together with X forms a C_3 - C_7 ring system, R_2 is H, alkyl, or C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl, R_3 and R_4 each independently are H, alkyl, or C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with halogen or CN, n is an integer of from 0-9, m is an integer of from 1-5.

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- 3. A steroid compound according to claim 1, characterised in that the longest chain in R₁₁ comprises 5-7 carbon atoms.
- 4. A steroid compound according to claim 3, characterised in that the longest chain in R₁₁ comprises 5 carbon atoms.
- 5. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a steroid compound according to any one of the preceding claims, and pharmaceutically acceptable auxiliaries.
- 10 6. The use of a steroid compound according to any one of claims 1-4 for the manufacture of a medicine in the treatment of estrogen-deficiency dependent disorders.

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